

**REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000 provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application Number: 09/816,177

Filing Date: March 26, 2001

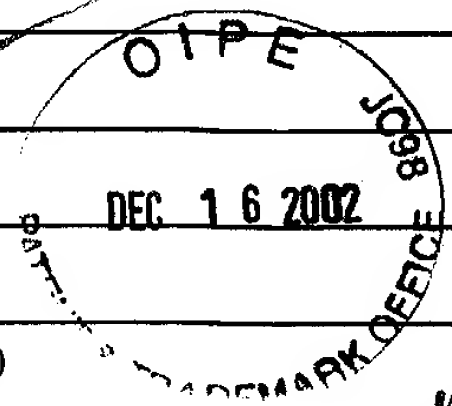
First Named Inventor: Masaaki HATANO

Group Art Unit: 2827

Examiner: Mitchell, James M.

Attorney Docket Number: 04329.2553-00

Attorney Customer Number: 22,852



This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) instead of a RCE to be eligible for patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See "Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice," Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (March 20, 2000). Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (April 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114:

a. ☒ Previously submitted

i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply after final under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on October 18, 2002.

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief of Reply Brief previously filed on _____.

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☐ Enclosed:

i. ☐ Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement

iv. ☐ Other _____

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2. Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-mentioned application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required.)

b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

a. ☒ The filing fee is calculated as follows:

i. ☒ \$740.00 RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)

ii. ☒ Petition for extension of time for (Two Months) \$400.00

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$1,140.00 enclosed.

c. ☒ The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies in the filing fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

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DEC 18 2002
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Signature of Applicant, Attorney, or Agent Required

Name: Richard V. Burgujian

Reg. No.: 31,744

Signature:

Date: December 16, 2002

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